

## **MINUTES**

Upper Saucon Township Board of Supervisors  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, September 28, 2020 – 6:30 P.M.  
Township Municipal Building

Members Present: Brian J. Farrell, Chairman  
Philip W. Spaeth, Vice Chairman  
John G. Inglis, III  
Dennis E. Benner

Members  
Participating  
Via Speakerphone: Stephen Wagner

Staff Attending: Thomas F. Beil, Township Manager  
Joseph Geib, Assistant Township Manager  
Thomas Dinkelacker, Township Solicitor  
Charles Unangst, P.E., Township Engineer  
Charles Castetter, Fire Chief  
Patricia Lang, Director of Community Development

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Farrell called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., in the Public Meeting Room of the Upper Saucon Township Municipal Building, 5500 Camp Meeting Road, Upper Saucon Township, Lehigh County, PA.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Farrell asked all in attendance to stand and recite the “Pledge of Allegiance.”

### **NOTIFICATION**

Chairman Farrell announced that all public sessions of the Upper Saucon Township Board of Supervisors are electronically recorded. The recordings are maintained as part of the record of the meeting until the minutes are transcribed and approved by the Board.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**PRESENTATION BY JAMIE SCHLESINGER OF PUBLIC FINANCIAL  
MANAGEMENT – OPTIONS FOR REFINANCING EXISTING TOWNSHIP DEBT  
AND BORROWING NEW MONEY TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF LOWER  
INTEREST RATES**

Jamie Schlesinger of Public Finance Management made a brief presentation to the Board. He discussed the possibility of refinancing existing Township debt to take advantage of lower interest rates. He said by refinancing now the Township could save approximately \$350,000. He also indicated the Township could borrow new money at historic low interest rates if it chooses to do so.

A lengthy discussion ensued as to whether the Township should borrow new money in conjunction with the refinancing.

It was the consensus of the Board to move forward with refinancing approximately \$8,200,000 in existing Township debt which is expected to result in a \$350,000 savings for the Township.

**SUBDIVISIONS & LAND DEVELOPMENTS**

Lawler / Hermany Lot Line Adjustment Plan – Resolution No. 2020-35

Motion made by Mr. Inglis and seconded by Mr. Benner to adopt Resolution No. 2020-35 conditionally approving the Preliminary / Final Lot Line Adjustment Plan of Francis and Lauren Lawler and Paul and Lindsay Hermany to adjust the lot line between the properties at 5330, 5340 and 5350 Saucon Ridge Road.

The motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

**MINUTES**

Regular Meeting of August 10, 2020

Motion made by Mr. Spaeth and seconded by Mr. Benner to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 10, 2020.

The motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

**ORDINANCES**

Proposed Ordinance No. 168 – Prohibiting the Release or Launch of Sky Lanterns

Motion made by Mr. Wagner and seconded by Mr. Inglis to adopt proposed Ordinance No. 168 prohibiting the release or launch of sky lanterns within the jurisdictional limits of Upper Saucon Township.

Fire Chief Castetter spoke in support of the proposed Ordinance, stating that sky lanterns pose a significant safety hazard and should be banned.

Chairman Farrell asked if anyone from the public wished to comment on the proposed Ordinance. There was no response.

The motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

None

## **MOTIONS**

Request for Payment – Main Street Improvements Project (Additional eastbound lane between northbound and southbound Route 309) – Certification No. 2

Motion made by Mr. Spaeth and seconded by Mr. Inglis to authorize payment in the amount of \$103,185.89 to Northeast Site Contractors for work completed on the Main Street Improvements Project.

The motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

Agreement with St. Luke's Health Network – Zoning Appeal No. 2020-09

Motion made by Mr. Benner and seconded by Mr. Inglis to approve the Agreement with St. Luke's Health Network setting forth the terms and conditions under which the Township will refrain from objecting to the Zoning Appeal filed by St. Luke's Health Network concerning the proposed sign package for the property at the northwest corner of Route 309 and Lanark Road, and to authorize the Township Manager to execute said Agreement on behalf of the Township.

The motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

Request for Payment – Main Street Improvements Project (Additional eastbound lane between northbound and southbound Route 309) – Certification No. 3

Motion made by Mr. Benner and seconded by Mr. Inglis to authorize payment in the amount of \$167,723.46 to Northeast Site Contractors for work completed on the Main Street Improvements Project.

The motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.



## **CORRESPONDENCE & INFORMATION ITEMS**

None

## **DIRECTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **Review Agenda for Zoning Hearing Board Meeting on October 5, 2020**

Mr. Beil reviewed the two appeals on the docket for the October 5, 2020 Zoning Hearing Board meeting. It was determined both appeals involve routine matters that can be handled by the Zoning Hearing Board without input from the Board of Supervisors.

## **BILLS, PAYROLL, AND COMMISSIONS**

Motion made by Mr. Spaeth and seconded by Mr. Benner to authorize payment of the Prepaid Invoice List Dated September 25, 2020 for Check Issue Dates 09/15/2020 – 09/28/2020 and Warrant Detail Invoice List dated September 25, 2020 for Reports Dates 09/15/2020 – 09/28/2020.

The motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

## **ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

Mr. Inglis inquired about the status of the Jewish Community Center property on Vera Cruz Road.

Ms. Lang said the property was recently purchased by a married couple looking to establish an agriculture use and winery on the property.

## **COURTESY OF THE FLOOR**

None

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At approximately 7:24 p.m., the Board met in Executive Session to discuss personnel matters involving employee pay rates and benefits.

At approximately 7:44 p.m., the Board returned from Executive Session.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Mr. Benner and seconded by Mr. Inglis to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:45 p.m.

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Secretary

